

**PATIENT PACKAGE INSERT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PHARMACISTS' REGULATIONS (PREPARATIONS) - 1986**

**The dispensing of this medicine requires a doctor's prescription**

**Read this package insert carefully in its entirety before using this medicine**

## **ANAFRANIL® 25 mg Coated tablets**

**Composition: Each tablet contains:**  
Clomipramine Hydrochloride 25 mg

**Inactive ingredients:** Lactose monohydrate, maize starch, silica colloidal anhydrous, stearic acid, talc, magnesium stearate, glycerol 85%, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, vinylpyrrolidone/vinylacetate copolymer, titanium dioxide, sucrose cryst., polyvinylpyrrolidone K30, dispersed yellow 15093 instead 5% EEC172 + 95% EEC171, polyethylene glycol 8000, cellulose microcrystalline (avicel PH 101).

Each tablet contains 15 mg lactose monohydrate and 16.5 mg sucrose.

## **ANAFRANIL® SR 75 mg Slow-release tablets, Divisible**

**Composition: Each tablet contains:**  
Clomipramine Hydrochloride 75 mg

**Inactive ingredients:** Calcium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate, polyacrylate dispersion 30%, calcium stearate, silica colloidal anhydrous, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, talc, titanium dioxide, polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil, red iron oxide.

**Therapeutic group:** Tricyclic antidepressants.

**Therapeutic activity:**

Treatment of various types of depression. Treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

**Anafranil** apparently works either by increasing the amount of naturally occurring chemical transmitters (noradrenaline and serotonin) in the brain or by making their effects last longer. If you have any questions regarding the medicine's action or why it has been prescribed for you, consult your doctor.

### **When should the preparation not be used?**

The active substance of **Anafranil** passes into the breast milk. Therefore, do not use the medicine if you are breastfeeding or alternatively - do not breastfeed while using the medicine. Consult your doctor about how to act.

Do not use if you know you are hypersensitive to clomipramine, to other medicines of the same pharmacological group (tricyclic antidepressants) or to any ingredients of this medicine listed at the beginning of this leaflet.

Do not use if you suffer from mania, severe liver disease, glaucoma (increased intraocular pressure), urine retention.

If you have recently had a heart attack, or if you suffer from a serious heart disease.

Do not use this preparation if you are concurrently using medicines of the monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) group or within 14 days before or after treatment with MAOIs.

### **Do not take this medicine without consulting a doctor before starting treatment:**

You should tell your doctor if you suffer from medical problems or if you are taking other medicines.

Do not take **Anafranil** during pregnancy unless it has been specifically prescribed by the doctor.

If you are taking certain medicines to treat depression, such as: selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), e.g.: fluoxetine, or serotonin and noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), tricyclic antidepressants and lithium. If you think you may be allergic, if you have suicidal thoughts, if you faint easily, if you are about to have an operation of any kind, a dental treatment or electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), if you consume alcohol or if you have changed your cigarettes consuming habits.

If you suffer or have suffered in the past from epilepsy, irregular heartbeat, schizophrenia, any heart and/or blood vessel disorder, glaucoma (increased pressure in the eye), liver or kidney disease, difficulty in passing urine (e.g., due to diseases of the prostate gland), an overactive thyroid gland, persisting constipation or hypokalemia (low concentrations of potassium in your blood).

**Anafranil 25 mg:** if you suffer from intolerance to some sugars e.g.: lactose or sucrose.

### **How will this medicine affect your daily life?**

Use of this medicine may cause impaired alertness, drowsiness or blurred vision in some patients. If you experience any of these effects, do not drive a car, do not operate machinery and do not engage in any task that requires full attention. Alcohol or other medicines (such as: barbiturates and benzodiazepines) may increase the above mentioned reactions. Children should be cautioned against bicycle riding or playing near roads and the like.

This medicine may cause special sensitivity by exposure to sunlight; you should therefore avoid direct exposure to the sun and be sure to take appropriate precautions (long clothes, a hat, protective creams, sunglasses, etc.).

**Warnings:** Tell the doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Do not use this medicine more frequently or for a prolonged period without consulting the doctor. Do not take a larger amount of the medicine. It is important for the doctor to check the patient's progress regularly in order to adjust the dosage and help reduce side effects.

Before and during treatment, there may be a need to perform blood tests, measure blood pressure and check heart function and liver functions.

**Anafranil** may cause dry mouth, which can increase the risk of tooth decay. Therefore, during long-term treatment, you should have regular dental check-ups.

If you wear contact lenses and experience eye irritation, contact your doctor.

Before any kind of surgery or dental treatment, tell the surgeon or the dentist that you are taking **Anafranil**.

In depressive patients, at the start of treatment, **Anafranil** may cause worsening of depression and/or worsening of suicidal thoughts and suicidal behavior or other psychiatric symptoms because it takes a certain period of time until the medicine starts affecting; in these cases contact the doctor immediately. Studies have shown that in children, adolescents and young adults up to 25 years of age who took antidepressants, an increase in suicidal thoughts and acts and hostility was observed, especially at the beginning of the treatment. Nevertheless, your doctor can prescribe the medicine if he thinks it will benefit you. If your doctor prescribed the medicine for you and you are interested in discussing it with him - consult him again. You must report to the doctor if some of the above side effects appear or get worse.

### **Information for families and caregivers:**

Family members and caregivers should monitor whether the depressed child or patient shows signs of behavioral changes, e.g.: unusual anxiety, restlessness, sleeping problems, irritability, aggressiveness, over excitedness/over enthusiasm or other unusual changes in behavior, worsening of depressive state or thinking about suicide. This recommendation should be followed especially strictly in young patients under 25 years of age. Report any such symptoms to the attending doctor immediately. Emergence of such symptoms should be evaluated on a day to day basis, especially in the early stages of antidepressive treatment and when the dose is increased or decreased, since changes may be abrupt. Symptoms such as these may be associated with an increased risk for suicidal thinking or behavior, and indicate a need for very close monitoring and possibly a change in the medication.

If you are sensitive to any type of food or medicine, inform your doctor before commencing treatment with this medicine.

**Drug interactions:** If you are taking another drug, or if you have just finished treatment with another medicine, including non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements, inform the attending doctor in order to prevent hazards or lack of efficacy arising from drug interactions. Since many medicines can interact with **Anafranil**, it may be necessary to adjust the dosage or stop treatment with one of the medicines. It is especially important for the doctor and pharmacist to know if you drink alcohol every day, if you have changed your smoking habits or if you are taking one of the following medicines:

Medicines affecting the central nervous system (such as barbiturates, benzodiazepines, anesthetics for surgeries) and narcotic pain relievers (such as morphine, codeine), medicines for lowering blood pressure, diuretics, medicines for the heart, medicines for blood clotting (anticoagulants), medicines to treat rhythm disorders (such as: quinidine and propafenone) other antidepressants (such as: medicines of the SSRI or SNRI family), medicines of the MAO inhibitors family, lithium, sedatives or hypnotics (such as: benzodiazepines), anti spasms (such as: barbiturates, carbamazepine and phenytoin), anesthetics, local anesthetics, medicines to treat asthma and/or allergy, medicines to treat Parkinson's, medicines for cough and cold, medicines for the thyroid gland, medicines to treat ulcers or heartburns

(such as: cimetidine), alcohol, clonidine (for blood pressure and migraine), medicines to treat attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (such as: methylphenidate), contraceptive pills, estrogens, neuroleptics (such as: phenothiazines), adrenaline, noradrenaline, isoprenaline, ephedrine, phenylephrine, rifampicin, nicotine and certain components in cigarette smoke. A medicine called terbinafine used orally to treat fungal infections of the skin, hair or nails; medicines used to help the kidneys get rid of salt and water by increasing the amount of urine (diuretics), drugs used to reduce fat in the blood; grapefruit; grapefruit juice; cranberry juice.

You should wait at least 14 days between taking monoamine oxidase inhibitors and taking **Anafranil** and two to three weeks between taking fluoxetine and taking **Anafranil**.

**Side effects:** In addition to the desired effect of the medicine, adverse reactions may occur during the course of taking this medicine.

**Very common side effects (likely to affect more than 1 patient in 10 patients):** Drowsiness, fatigue, dry mouth, nausea, headache, blurred vision, dizziness, weight gain, restlessness, increased appetite, constipation, tremor, palpitations, sweating and sexual function and libido disorders. At the start of treatment, **Anafranil** may increase feelings of anxiety but this effect generally disappears within two weeks.

Consult your doctor if any of these affects you severely.

**Other side effects:**

**Common side effects (likely to affect between 1 to 10 patients in every 100 patients):** Disorientation, confusion, agitation, palpitations, poor concentration, sleep disturbances, over excitedness/over enthusiasm, irritability, aggressiveness, poor memory, feeling detached from a situation (like watching it from afar), worsening of depression, nightmares, yawning, numbness or tingling of the hands or feet, hot flushes, dilated pupils, fall in blood pressure associated with dizziness after abrupt changing of position to sitting or standing, vomiting, abdominal disorders, diarrhea, anorexia, skin sensitivity to the sun, breast swelling and discharge of milk, unpleasant taste, ringing in the ears, EEG and ECG changes, increase in liver enzymes, hepatitis, pneumonia and change in the blood picture.

If any of these affects you severely, contact your doctor.

**Uncommon side effects (likely to affect between 1 and 10 patients in every 1,000 patients):** Fever, increase in blood pressure.

If any of these affects you severely, contact your doctor.

**Very rare side effects (likely to affect less than 1 patient in every 10,000 patients):** Edema (swelling of the ankles and/or the hands and/or any other part in the body), hair loss. Some of the patients, especially adults aged 50 years or older, who are taking a medicine of this group are more likely to experience bone fractures.

If any of these affects you severely, contact your doctor.

**Other side effects reported (frequency unknown):** Feeling of inner restlessness and a compelling need to be in constant motion; repetitive, involuntary, purposeless movements; breakdown of muscle; increase in prolactin (a hormone) level in the blood, and serotonin syndrome (syndrome caused due to increase in the naturally occurring substance, serotonin, in the brain, manifested by symptoms such as agitation, confusion, diarrhea, high fever, increased blood pressure, excessive sweating and rapid heartbeat).

If any of these affects you severely, contact your doctor.

Some of these adverse reactions pass during treatment following a period of adjusting to the preparation. If these reactions persist or are bothersome, contact the doctor.

**Side effects that require special attention:**

Serotonin syndrome, which can be expressed as changes in the mental state (such as: over nervousness, delirium, coma), autonomic infirmness (such as: rapid heart rate, unstable blood pressure, hyperthermia), neuromuscular deficiencies (such as: hyperreflexia, lack of coordination) and/or digestive system symptoms (such as: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) (rare): contact the doctor immediately.

Seeing or hearing things that are not really there, suicidal thoughts, suicidal behavior, anxiety, psychoses or other psychiatric symptoms, a nervous system disorder characterized by muscle stiffness, high fever and impaired consciousness, dental caries, jaundice, skin reactions (itching or reddening), frequent infections with fever and sore throat (due to decreased number of white blood cells), allergic reactions with/without cough and difficulty in breathing, inability to coordinate movements, increased pressure in the eye, severe stomach pain, severe loss of appetite, sudden contraction of the muscles, muscle weakness or stiffness, muscle spasms, difficulty in passing urine, fast or irregular heartbeat

(racing, pounding), increase in blood pressure, difficulty in speaking, confusion, hallucinations, fits: Contact your doctor straight away!

Decreased lacrimation and increase of mucoid secretions: in case you are using contact lenses, contact the doctor.

In the event that you experience side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, or if there is a change in your general health, consult the doctor.

**Side effects and drug interactions in children and patients:** Parents/caregiver must inform the attending doctor about any side effects, as well as any additional medicine being taken by the child or patient! See section side effects and section drug interactions.

**Dosage:** Dosage is according to doctor's instructions only. Do not exceed the recommended dosage.

**This medicine is not usually intended for children under age 18.**

**Anafranil** should not be given to children and adolescents unless specifically prescribed by the doctor. The doctor will provide any special information about careful dosage and the need for special observation.

Elderly patients generally need lower doses than young and middle-aged patients. Side effects are more likely to occur in older patients. The doctor will provide any special information about careful dosage and the need for close observation.

This medicine is to be taken at specific time intervals as determined by the attending doctor. If you forget to take this medicine at the specified time, take the forgotten dose as soon as possible and return to the usual dosing schedule. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the forgotten dose and continue with the regular treatment program. Never take two doses together!

**Directions for use:** Do not chew!

**Anafranil SR 75 mg:** Swallow the tablet whole with a large amount of liquid.

The tablets can be halved but should not be chewed.

**Anafranil** can be taken with or without food.

**How can you contribute to the success of the treatment?**

Complete the full course of treatment as instructed by the doctor. Even if there is an improvement in your health, do not change or discontinue treatment with this medicine without consulting the doctor. Depression and obsessive-compulsive disorder require long-term treatment with **Anafranil**. Do not change or discontinue treatment with the medicine without consulting your doctor.

The doctor may want to reduce the dosage gradually before stopping treatment completely. This is to prevent any worsening of your condition and reduce the risk of withdrawal symptoms such as: feeling sick, stomach pain, diarrhea, difficulty in falling asleep, anxiety or nervousness, headaches, nausea and general discomfort.

**Avoid poisoning!** This medicine, and all other medicines, must be stored in a safe place out of the reach of children and/or infants, to avoid poisoning. If you have taken an overdose, or if a child has accidentally swallowed the medicine, proceed immediately to a hospital emergency room and bring the package of the medicine with you. Medical treatment may be required. Symptoms of overdose, (usually appearing within a few hours) include: severe drowsiness; poor concentration; stupor; fast, slow or irregular heartbeat; restlessness or nervousness; loss of muscle coordination and muscle stiffness; shortness of breath; fits; vomiting or fever. **Do not induce vomiting** unless explicitly instructed to do so by a doctor! This medicine has been prescribed for the treatment of your ailment; in another patient it may cause harm. **Do not give this medicine to your relatives, neighbors or acquaintances.** **Do not take medicines in the dark!** Check the label and the dose each time you take your medicine. Wear glasses if you need them.

**Storage:**

**Anafranil 25 mg:** Store below 25°C, Protect from moisture.

**Anafranil SR 75 mg:** Store below 25°C, protect from moisture.

Store in the original package. Keep out of the reach and sight of children. Overdose of the medicine is dangerous especially in young children. Even if kept in their original container and stored as recommended, medicines may be kept for a limited period only. Please note the expiry date of the medicine! In case of doubt, consult the pharmacist who dispensed the medicine to you. Do not store different medications in the same package.

**License number:**

**Anafranil 25 mg:** 108 06 24600 00

**Anafranil SR 75 mg:** 053 91 26407 00

**Manufacturer:** Novartis Farma S.p.A., Torre Annunziata, Italy for Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland.

**Registration Holder:** Novartis Israel Ltd., 36 Shacham St., Petach-Tikva.

**The format of this leaflet was determined by the Ministry of Health and its content was checked and approved by it in July 2012.**

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